the martlet

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Zim Fest!

Revellers enjoy the outdoor market at last weekend's Zimbabwean Music Festival. Musicians and artists came from across Canada and the U.S. take part in the 3-day event. See story page 7.

Martlet photo: Patricia Murray

World Wildlife Fund under fire for oil company nomination

by Craig Saunders

The World Wildlife Fund [WWF] consistently offers support to companies for acts benefiting the environment. But when the WWF nominated four oil companies for a major award, environmentalists and human activists were not pleased — to say the least.

In April the WWF nominated Shell Canada, Chevron Canada Resources, Petro-Canada and Mobil Oil for the 1997 Minister's Environmental Awards in B.C., in recognition of oil rights that they donated to help protect Gwaii Haanas, a protected area near the Queen Charlotte islands.

The companies donated 320,000 acres of mineral exploration rights in the area to the Nature Conservancy of Canada.

"It's adjacent to Gwaii Haanas," said Pegi Dover, WWF's director of communications. "We want to commend good work by any company and criticize it when it's bad. We did view the contribution as being very significant."

But many environmentalists are shocked to see Shell Canada nominated for such an award, given its questionable operations in Nigeria and its connection to the massacre of the Ogoni people there.

"I think that it is very disappointing, considering all the work we have been doing," said Prince Nallo of the Vancouver Island Public Interest Research Group. "What does that [the nomination] say about their activities in other parts of the world? Do we have to go and kill people to have this fake wonderland here?"

Dover said that the nomination should be viewed separately from other issues. "The award is for this particular contribution," she said. "We are speaking out against Shell elsewhere."

That concept does not sit well with the Sierra Club, a international environmental organization.

"What does that [the nomination] say about their activities in other parts of the world? Do we have to go and kill people to have this fake wonderland here?"

"You can't do one thing in one place, then do another in another country and say it's different," said Jean-Louis Hebert, chair of the Sierra Club's prairie chapter. "I jumped, I hit the roof."

Hebert said that, while he supports WWF and many of their projects, he cannot stand by and watch the group nominate Shell for such an award.

The Fund, however, is adamant in defending its decision. "We want more contributions like that," said Dover. "The mineral rights have been a stumbling block ever since the park was created."

The pressure, however, is high as environmentalists and human rights activists express their outrage.

"It's been an issue," said Dover. "We've had a lot of angry calls from environmentalists. We've taken them to heart... we share the concerns about Shell and Nigeria."

According to Hebert, former recipients of the Minister's Award have said they will return their awards if the nomination is accepted, including Geraldine Irby, who has edited Sierra Club's newsletter for 25 years out of their Vancouver office. Irby could not be reached for comment.

"I hope that in the end we all stay focused on the same goal of environmental and social issues," said Dover.

"I do support WWF," said Hebert, who says that he finds many of the documents they produce useful. "I think they did well to recognize that Shell did something good ...[but] I think they were wrong to nominate Shell while [the company's] activities are still up in the air elsewhere."

Last year Shell Canada donated $25,000 to World Wildlife Fund Canada, making up 0.2% of the Fund's operating budget. No donations were received from the other three nominees.

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April 28 - May 16, 1997

Monday - Friday

Lane Swim	7:30 am - 8:30 am
Lane Swim	11:30 am - 1:30 pm
Recreation Swim	3:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Sat./Sun	
Family Swim	1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
Recreation Swim	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Pool Hours: May 17 - August 15, 1997

Monday - Friday

Recreation Swim	12 noon - 1:00 pm
Recreation Swim	4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Note: McKinnon Building pool will be closed from August 3 to 10 for the North American Indigenous Games and from August 16 to September 1 for maintenance.

UVIC GORDON HEAD COMPLEX
May 17 - October 6, 1997

Monday - Friday

Lane Swim	7:40 am - 9:00 am
Lane Swim	11:30 am - 2:00 pm
Recreation Swim	3:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Sat./Sun/Holiday	
Lane Swim	11:30 pm - 1:00 pm
Recreation Swim	1:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Note: GHC pool is closed 2:00 - 3:00 pm daily for maintenance and summer camps.

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Mon./Thurs.	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Boxercize
Tues.	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Hi/Lo Step
Sat.	10:15 am - 11:45 am	Straight Step
Sun.	10:15 am - 11:45 am	Total Step Workout

McK DANCE STUDIO
Effective: Monday, January 6, 1997

*Mon./Wed./Fri.	11:30 am - 12:20 pm	Free Mild Fitness
Tues./Thurs.	12:30 pm - 1:20 pm	Step It Up
Mon./Wed.	5:00 pm - 5:55 pm	Step It Up
Mon./Wed.	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Intense Fitness

*This class is free to Students, Staff, Faculty with presentation of a valid RecPlus membership Card.

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May 5 - June 27, 1997
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Mon./Wed./Fri. 12:10 pm - 12:50 pm

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Schedule subject to change

CBC promises made, CBC promises broken

by Craig Saunders

By now, most Victorians have seen the bright "We're Voting CBC" lawn signs and bumper stickers. But how does one "Vote CBC" in an election where the public broadcaster's initials have not been uttered except in reference to the leaders' debate?

The lawn sign campaign started in November, 1996, and was planned to last for 36 days, just like an election. Organizers found more support than they had anticipated, and the campaign quickly spread from a few ridings to a total of 40.

"The level of activity varies in each riding," said Bob Van Alstyne, the local organizer of the Friends of Canadian Broadcasting (FOCB) campaign. "About 700 people in the Victoria riding and about 650 in Esquimalt-Juan de Fuca [donated] to FOCB."

Despite a solid groundswell of support, protecting the CBC has not materialized as a major issue in the election.

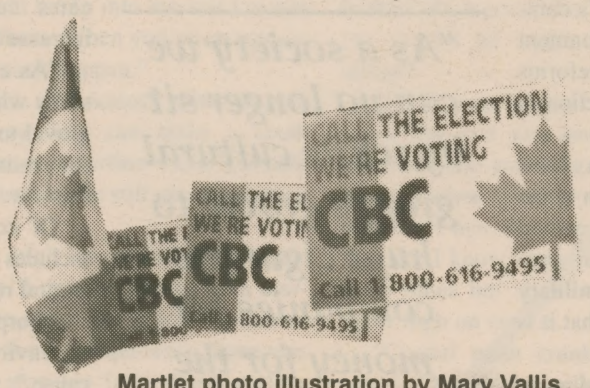
However, representatives of the FOCB still regard the campaign as a success. Although it is rarely mentioned by any party, and is not a priority issue in most the campaigns, it does make an appearance in most party platforms.

"We're getting some indication that it was a success," said Van Alstyne. "A cabinet minister was overheard at a caucus meeting in Quebec saying that it has been one of the most effective campaigns he'd ever seen."

The only tangible measure of the campaign's success will be the outcome of the election.

So, given that nobody's talking about it, if you want to vote CBC, for whom do you vote? The Friends are non-partisan and do not support any party.

But they are asking voters to "Vote CBC" based on individual candidates' answer to this question:



Martlet photo illustration by Mary Vallis

"If you are elected, will you vote against the next federal budget if it does not increase funding to the CBC?"

The Tories don't mention CBC in their platform. However, CBC supporters recall the gutting of the service during the Mulroney years.

The Liberals gloss right over the issue in their platform. "In 1993 Liberals made a commitment to stable multiyear funding for ...the CBC," the platform says. "Given the severe constraints the government has faced... we have not fulfilled this commitment." The statement goes on to cite a $10 million kickback to save Radio Canada International.

"The Liberal government's unqualified support for Canadian public broadcasting is demonstrated in the $858 million a year in public funding that goes to the CBC," the platform continues. This follows a budget promise of another $50 million in cuts for next year.

The New Democrats mention the CBC in leader Alexa McDonough's letter rallying Canada's left. When the NDP leader was in Victoria, she told the Friends that the NDP supports the Friends' campaign.

The Reform party has an interesting approach to saving the CBC: privatize it. "Privatize CBC-TV and SRC-TV (CBC and SRC Radio will be retained, as will Newsworld and Reseau de l'information, RDI)."

The Greens say they plan "to provide stable funding for the CBC — both radio and television services."

That's what the federal parties are saying. Go ahead and ask the local candidates yourself.

On May 30, the Friends will hold a gathering to listen to the last episode of *Morningside* with Peter Gzowski. Van Alstyne refers to the occasion with a moroseness suitable to a funeral. If you want to attend, call 652-2210.

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Environmentalists proclaim partial victory

by Richard Carlson

Environmentalists have claimed a huge victory in protecting the Sooke Hills watershed with the provincial government's recent decision to step in and turn the land into a park.

"The park is wonderful; we are really thrilled," said Alison Spriggs, spokesperson for the Western Canada Wilderness Committee (WCWC).

The new park, which will more than double the size of parkland in southern Vancouver Island, was one of the key recommendations of the Perry Commission's report on the Greater Victoria water supply.

"Happy as heck" is how David Perry, chair of the Commission, describes his feelings towards the new park. "I am glad to see that the province has stepped in."

The park is the result of many hours of lobbying by organizations like the WCWC to create the political will for the province to intervene.

"It is so bizarre. People refer to [creating the park] as a no-brainer, yet remarkably it took so much energy on our part to get it through," said Spriggs. She credits the citizens of Victoria and their persistent letter writing campaigns for creating the political climate for the provincial government to take action.

"The environmentalists played an instrumental role in the creation of the park and in the Perry Commission," said local MLA and Finance Minister Andrew Petter who, along with Victoria MLA Gretchin Brewin, is a member of the water board implementation group.

But Perry, along with many environmentalists, stresses that the new park is only a partial victory and much work still needs to be done.

The WCWC is trying to create a sea-to-sea greenway from the Saanich Inlet to the Sooke Basin. With the new park, the largest land holding in the area is protected. All that remains are Crown and private lands.

Right now, WCWC is working with the Society for the Protection of Ayum Creek and the Habitat Acquisition Trust to raise $625,000 to buy private land surrounding the Ayum Creek estuary. This would make it the only completely protected salmon bearing estuary in the south island, said Spriggs. Since March, $60,000 has been raised.

> *"We still have to baby-sit the politicians"*

One of the most significant sections of the Perry Commission is the creation of a new water board with public accountability. While the present water board is composed of four people, under the new legislation there will be 13 local representatives from the municipalities.

"The significant change will be the number of players. No matter how the vote is weighted there will be more faces and it will be hard to ram things through the old way," said Perry.

How those representatives are selected is not quite clear, but Perry said there is a strong desire to have public input in the selection.

Petter says that the election of the new water commission is the only section of Perry's report that is being looked at before it is implemented.

"Municipal elections will not roll around for another two years so we have time to look at it and see how to do it," said Petter. "In principle it allows more accountability but we have to look at regional districts."

Spriggs says the WCWC is concerned about "staunch opponents of protecting the area" being on the water commission and the committee implementing the new park. She is relying upon continued government support to force the water board to conserve the area.

"That the province had to get involved shows how unreceptive the water board politicians are. We still have to baby-sit the politicians," said Spriggs.

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More than just a "Green" alternative

by Jennifer Maitland

Many voters see Canada's Green Party as just an environmental party, but a brief look through the its platform shows that it is prepared to address a wide range of international, national and local issues.

"What I've tried to do is bring an international focus to the Green Party," says Victoria-based national leader Joan Russow. "Many Green Party policies are reflected in international focuses. It's about applying global principles to local issues."

Russow was chosen as the new leader on April 14. A sessional lecturer of global issues at UVic, she says there is an urgent need to expose the current government's inadequacies and misplaced priorities in such areas as women's issues, human rights, social justice, the environment and peace.

The party's recent newsletter covers issues concerning everything from defence to arts and culture.

Proof of the Green Party's commitments beyond the environment is seen by one of the first reforms they list: a 50 percent reduction in the military budget.

"In 1981 there was a U.N. General Assembly resolution to cut military spending so there would be more money for social programs. But in 1981 the military budget was less than half what it is now," said Russow.

Russow has investigated government spending, and she's come up with some startling facts.

"I've found that the objectives of many government departments include promoting Canadian corporate competitiveness. The money spent on promoting this competition could be better spent on education."

Russow also says that the government should make records of their spending available to all citizens.

"As a society we can no longer sit by while cultural groups grovel to huge cigarette companies for money for the arts"

"There's a book called the *Treasury Board Book of Federal Expenses*," says Russow. "I think every citizen should have a copy."

Arts and culture are also high on the list of the Green Party's priorities. They want stable funding for the CBC and the elimination of the GST on books, magazines, newspapers, films and all other forms of artistic expression. Russow advocates cultural diversity and an increase for arts funding.

"As a society we can no longer sit by while cultural groups have to grovel to huge cigarette companies for money for the arts," said Russow.

Of course, the newsletter also includes a wide range of environmental reforms as well.

"Corporations should pay for the environmental degradation they cause," says Russow. "We could use this money to promote social programs and education."

The party has also undertaken to identify the biodiversity precaution principle. According to Russow, the party is not going to wait for harm to occur to the environment before something is done. She says Canada needs to follow the rest of the world and move away from the dependency on automobiles.

The party is also dedicated to reforms concerning unity issues with Quebec.

"I think that we should show tremendous tolerance and respect to the people in Quebec," says Russow. "We are trying to take a positive approach to environmental issues, social issues and human rights so that the people of Quebec will want to stay in Canada."

Amongst the highlights of the platform there are other reforms, such as their proposed change to the electoral system to proportional representation where a party receives a number of seats equal to their share of the vote.

According to Russow, this is the best possible system.

"With this system people are voting for someone or something that they actually want," said Russow.

UVic loses with Bre-X, pension fund out $1m

by Craig Saunders

The University of Victoria Pension Fund lost a million dollars when they found their gold mine was filled with fools.

During the winter, $1 million of the fund was invested in the now infamous Canadian mining firm, Bre-X. Earlier this month it was revealed that firm's samples from its Busang, Indonesia site was "salted" with gold. The wondrous gold deposits were a fraud, and like the company, the fund's money is gone.

"When you look at the total amount of the Bre-X investment, that's not a disproportionate amount... for any single investment," said Dr. Fred Fisher, chair of the Pension Fund Board. He estimates the fund's current value is about $275 million.

"It's a 0.44% loss," he said. "Our monthly variation is more than that. It's not trivial. We don't like losing a million bucks, especially on a scam."

"It's not trivial. We don't like losing a million bucks, especially on a scam.."

No pensions are at risk as a result of the loss and the board is not formally considering any legal action against the company at this time.

The board sets guidelines for the two firms which handle the fund's investments: Gryphon Investment Counsellors, and Phillips, Hager and North.

"We don't particularly blame the investment firms," Fisher said, noting that most investment advisors were pushing Bre-X at the time.

According to Dr. Don Rowlatt, UVic's vice-president of finance and operations, the university did not have any investments in Bre-X.

Like their pension funds, universities regularly invest surplus funds at times of peak revenue, such as when tuition rolls in at the beginning of the year. Investment revenues help offset expenses in operating budgets, and boost pension fund contributions.

And occasionally, these investments do go sour. In 1992, a number of universities lost substantial sums when real estate giant Olympia & York collapsed.

News Briefs

Indigenous Games only halfway there

by Calinda Brown

Organizers of the fourth North American Indigenous Games [NAIG] still need volunteers to help pull off one of the premiere sporting and cultural events of this summer.

The NAIG will be held from August 3 to 10 in various venues around Victoria and Sidney. The University of Victoria will be one of the main venues for athletics. UVic students have a unique opportunity to take part as volunteers because many of us will already be on campus.

Trisha Swanson, NAIG's volunteer co-ordinator, said "Volunteering for the NAIG is a great opportunity to meet new people, learn new skills and discover more about Aboriginal cultures and people."

With almost 5,000 athletes, the games are comparable in size to the B.C. Summer Games. Its mission is "to improve the quality of life for Indigenous peoples by supporting self-determined sport and cultural activities which encourage equal access to participation in the social and cultural fabric of the community they reside in and which respects Indigenous distinctiveness."

The Games will be the largest gathering of Aboriginal youth in North America this year.

Volunteers help with security, accommodations, food services and accreditation. Over 2,000 volunteers are needed before and during the Games, and so far just over 1,000 have signed up.

If you would like to help out with the NAIG, please call the Games office at 361-1997.

Car share gets fair share

by Pat Bolen

The Victoria Car Share Co-operative received over $30,000 from Environment Canada to develop six new car shares units over the next two years.

Co-operative members jointly own vehicles and book time to use a car. They pay an initial fee of $100, plus refundable shares. After that, the only costs are an administration fee, plus time and distance fees for car usage.

Members estimate they save about $3,000 a year by belonging to the co-op.

"Being a co-op member has made a lot of economic sense to me. My driving is very intentional now and I'm much more organized now. I decide what I can do by bike or bus and what I need a car for," said Fran Thorburn, chair of the co-operative.

With the new funds, the co-op plans to expand into Fernwood. Prospective members can call 995-0265.

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Invisible Epidemic:

Victoria's youth drug problem grows

With coverage of youth drug issues in recent weeks, Martlet writer Mary Vallis decided to examine local use of illicit drugs among Victoria's younger crowds–and let the results speak for themselves. (Names have been changed to protect the sources' identities)

At 17, Jenn Anderson is no stranger to hard drugs.

"I became obsessed with the idea of pushing the boundaries, testing my limits," says Anderson. "I've always been into that."

The first time Anderson tried any sort of drug was at 13 when she smoked pot with her stepfather. "Good role model," she laughs sarcastically. Since then, she has tried everything from LSD and mushrooms to harder drugs like ecstasy and crack.

According to the chief coroner's report, deaths due to the use of illicit drugs have become epidemic in British Columbia in recent years, increasing from 39 deaths in 1988 to almost 10 times that, at 331 people in 1993.

More and more young people throughout B.C. are using harder drugs, confirms Constable Mario Bourdages of the RCMP's subdivision drug section. Amphetamines like speed and crystal meth (methamphetamine) are making a comeback, along with newer drugs like ecstasy–a synthetic drug that produces a euphoric high. Cocaine and heroin are also popular with the younger crowd.

The number of deaths from drug use by young people, released by the coroner's office, are just as high as the overall numbers. For males between 15 and 29 the number tripled from less than five per 100,000 people in 1988 to approximately 15 in 1993. For females between 15 and 29 the number doubled from two to four per 100,000 during those same years.

When she was 16, Anderson got kicked out of her home and lived with friends at an apartment in downtown Victoria. Spending her nights at a bar and various parties, she used illicit drugs and alcohol nightly. Over a year's time Anderson tried a wide range of illegal substances, including cocaine, ecstasy, speed, crystal meth and even crack.

"I had a really bad experience with ecstasy the first time I did it," Anderson recalls. She enjoyed the high for only 45 minutes.

"I guess it was cut with a lot of heroin because I started feeling really aggressive and nasty. I was feeling really sick, cramped and claustrophobic, like I didn't want to be there anymore," says Anderson. "I felt really overwhelmed by everything that was going on. People would bump into me and I would want to shove them. When you're on ecstasy that usually doesn't happen."

Dealers often mix ecstasy with cheaper drugs. This way they can make a small amount of ecstasy go farther when it is sold in small quantities, while still giving users an intense high.

"You really don't know what you're getting in it. They'll cut the ecstasy with low-grade drugs like speed and heroin," explains Anderson. But the bad experience alone was not enough to stop her from doing ecstasy again.

"That 45 minutes at the beginning of the night was enough for me to know I wanted to do it again."

Since first trying ecstasy a year ago Anderson has used it over 30 times.

One capsule, or 'cap,' is usually sold for about $35. Although she usually didn't have any money, finding drugs was never a problem for Anderson. Her friends would hook her up with drugs and get her into parties for free. When she did occasionally run into money, spending $250 in an evening was not unusual.

"The last time I did it was at a big party. I did way too much and it was really speedy. I didn't have control over my body and I basically ended up sitting all night shaking because my muscles were twitching so bad."

Anderson never had to turn to street dealers for hard drugs. Ecstasy and crystal meth are readily available in high schools and by word of mouth. Dealers are often as young as 14 and 15, according to Bourdages.

Steve Smith was 17 when he began dealing crystal methamphetamine last year. His clients ranged from under 16 to about 50 years old.

"Kids are a lot more flagrant with their use of it. It's not just one group of kids using. It's everywhere. Right now it seems to be the popular thing," says Smith.

In the months that Smith was dealing he says his average profit would have been about $500 a day if he wasn't supporting his own drug habits.

"I had always said I would never do crystal meth because my old roommate...was really addicted to crystal meth. She had a heart condition from [it]. She finally kicked all her habits and died five months later. She was 17."

Although Anderson vowed never to try "crystal," she tried it at an after hours house party last year.

"I don't know what I was thinking but it looked like a good idea. We ended up smoking crystal all night, four or five hours straight.

"I had a totally good experience. You talk super fast and you keep interrupting each other because you have so much to say. You get to know people so fast," Anderson recalls. "I met those people that night and I feel like I know them. I've maybe met them three times but all three times we've been super high on crystal.

"Crystal meth cranks you up. It's just speed. Crack's basically the same thing, I don't notice that much of a difference."

Crystal can be injected intravenously or smoked directly from its powder form. Most youth use the glass from a broken light bulb as a surface to heat the powder, using a straw to inhale the smoke directly.

Smith shot crystal meth intravenously almost every day and says he knows about 50 youth who preferred to shoot it as well because the high was so much more intense.

"I was doing [crystal meth] intravenously but not that often–like once or twice a day," Smith recalls. "Shooting is a lot less damaging to your body but it also does physical harm."

Smith says smoking crystal methamphetamine can cause tissue damage in the lungs and nose but adds that the same can be true if an intravenous user "misses" a vein.

A youth outreach worker at the Victoria Needle Exchange confirms that more young people are using drugs intravenously. The free service, sponsored by the Ministry of Health, can be used by anyone for sterile syringes.

The exchange has over 70 regular clients under the age of 20 at its downtown location alone. While that number may seem small in comparison with the Exchange's 1300 active clients, the outreach worker was quick to point out that young users are the ones who keep coming back.

"The reality is that the 20-year-old users we've got all started when they were young," she says.

She also explains that intravenous use of hard drugs is not only a street-level problem.

"We do see some very well-dressed kids coming through the doors," she says.

She also notices that today's youth are bypassing the preliminary stages of abuse. "The time frame between experimenting with alcohol and marijuana and then moving to smoking coke and shooting heroin is much shorter," she explains.

Even the threat of death isn't enough to scare some youth out of trying hard drugs.

Andrew Link, 19, actually witnessed a fatal overdose while he was high on ecstasy last year.

While he was waiting at a Skytrain station on his way back from a party near Vancouver, he watched a woman from the same party die from an overdose of ecstasy.

"All of a sudden this girl falls over. Boom, right to the ground," says Link. "She was rock solid, totally rigid. She's so rigid that she's lying on her side but one of her legs is extended up–but it's not moving."

When he called 911 on his cellular phone the police told Link it would be half an hour before they could get help to the woman because of the snow.

"Everybody took off their coats and covered her with them. Then blood started to come out of her mouth.

"The Skytrain had to stop [before] the station because her legs were over the yellow line."

When the paramedics did arrive, they told Link the woman had died instantly.

In spite of the death he witnessed with his own eyes, Link did ecstasy again the following weekend.

"It didn't make me stop and think, 'Oh, I shouldn't do that.' It just made me glad that I knew where my drugs came from."

Look for continued coverage in the June Martlet as Mary Vallis examines the efforts of police and parents dealing with youth drug use.

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EDITORIAL

Education a non-issue in election

Elections are a great time for student groups to push for improvements in education funding, and this one is no exception. For years, post-secondary education has been under attack from the neoconservative axemen, and this is clearly a time to take a strong, united stand.

Sadly, education is not even being discussed in the election, and our representatives are invisible in the campaign. We elected the UVSS to defend our rights, and to speak out on our behalf. We fund the Canadian Federation of Students to do the same.

But where are these representatives? Now more than ever, we need to have a strong voice, and our representatives are failing us. They must take a much more active role in the last days of the election in order to salvage what they can from this dismal failure. If not, they have failed to perform the primary task of their jobs, and should refund their salaries to the students.

Students who do not know exactly where the parties stand on education have good reason: the parties are not telling us. Jobs and the economy may well be important points for a government to consider, but they are not the whole of the government. Education must be an issue, and students have to vote in favour of their rights.

For those of you who are still wondering, here is a rundown of the parties' platform statements on education.

Liberals - Son of Red Book says "In a time of escalating tuition fees and related costs, the Liberal government is providing assistance to students and their families to help keep young people in school longer." Their record reflects this statement. Students are paying more, and the government is providing "assistance" in the form of loans. The result: another day older and deeper in debt.

Reform - The platform promises to "Add $4 billion a year to health care and education payments to provinces (using savings from reductions in other programs)." Sounds good, but this does not say how much will go to post-secondary education or how the funds will be delivered. Also ask what will be cut in order to accommodate this vague promise.

New Democrats - "...initiatives include: Halt this year's $550 million cut in support for community colleges and universities. Make accessibility a new national standard in higher education. Full federal funding will go to every province to ensure tuition fees no longer exclude students without deep pockets. A student assistance program to give all qualified students access to post-secondary education, without trapping them in debt for years after graduation." The platform goes on with various ideas favourable to the progressive left.

Tories - A "Jean Charest government" promises to start "a $100 million Canadian merit scholarship program... for 25,000 needy students with the top marks in a scholarship exam covering core subjects." They also promise a system of privately-funded [read: corporate] scholarships; assistance available to every student [read: loans]; income-contingent repayment schemes; and other programs popular with neoconservatives.

Greens - Surprisingly, the lengthy platform of this highly progressive party does not mention education funding.

Happy voting!

Editorial topics are decided upon by staff at editorial meetings every Monday at 4 p.m. in the Martlet, SUB B011. Editorials are written by one or more staff members. Opinions expressed here are not necessarily those of all staff

DING!
OFF AIR
ON AIR
UM, HELLO? EXCUSE ME? I WAS JUST WONDERING... HELLO? I'M A STUDENT, YOU SEE; AND LOTS OF US STUDENTS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT EDUCATION, SEE? UM, EXCUSE ME? OVER HERE? I HAVE A QUESTION REGARDING EDUCATION? HELLO? ANYONE?
L
P C
LOOKS LIKE THERE'S SOME COMMON GROUND AFTER ALL...

The Martlet has an open letters policy and will endeavor to print every letter received from members of the university community, with priority to undergraduate students. Letters must be **TYPEWRITTEN** (you may use *Martlet* computers), submitted on disk or e-mailed and include your name and phone number for verification. **LETTERS MUST BE 200 WORDS MAXIMUM.** Letters will be reviewed for libel at *the Martlet* editorial meeting, Monday at 4 p.m. on the week of publication. Deadline for letters is Monday noon. Letters will be priorized by the order received. Letters with pseudonyms or group names will not be printed. Letters will not be edited for spelling or grammar. Announcements will be directed to Billboards. Letters may be mailed to Box 3035, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC, V8W 3P3, dropped off at SUB B011 or e-mailed to martlet@uvic.ca

Smoking in Ottawa

Dear Editor:

Hearing the Liberals and PCs deny that granting Distinct Society Status to Quebec will not confer any additional powers to that province is like hearing the tobacco industry argue their product is not addictive. The Liberal Government, aided by the Bloc Quebecois voted against the Reform Party of Canada Amendment that would have unequivocally stated that Distinct Society does not mean special powers for Quebec. That says it all.

Every child knows that a family rift is inevitable if one family member is given special status. The Federal Government's blatant catering to one province iwll lead inevitably to a Canadian family feud.

What could the government be smoking if they think we Canadians will enhale their nonsense?

Patrick Hunt

You're welcome

Dear Editor:

I am writing in regards to the latest issue of The Martlet. As a student of the University of Victoria, I found your publication of UVic: Year in Review quite amusing! It is my opinion that Andrew Musgrave may be headed somewhere with his comical talent. However, as a proud member of the Delta Upsilon Fraternity, the publication came as no surprise to myself or any of my proud brothers.

As the end of the Spring term approaches, I feel that it is time to pass onto you my greatest admiration towards your publications that have involved the Delta Upsilon Fraternity! Whether they were written in regards to indisputable facts, stereotypes, hearsay, or simply assumptions alone, we definitely kept you busy considering that you would do anything in order to write a story on us.

It is your continual publications bashing the fraternity, whether presented in a professional or unprofessional manner, which supplied the Victoria Chapter with the needed resources and publicity in becoming a strong voice on campus. Our present numbers and projected continual growth speak for themselves. The appreciation received from the community in regards to our presence and efforts put forth in Victoria are probably issues you will never writer about Ask yourself, "What have you done for your community lately."??? Volunteering??? Food Drives??? Clothing Drives???

Stats Dimopoulos

False advertising

Dear Editor:

The NDP government's portrayal of young people in recent television advertisements is shameful, degrading and insulting.

A recent ICBC advertisement tastelessly depicts a young person stealing cars. Even more enraging is the recent Skills BC advertisement where an exceptionally dull and unskilled 20-something includes video game high scores on his resumé to demonstrate his computer skills. Unable to control themselves any longer, the older potential employers see fit to detonate the prospective employee, leaving only his portable stereo and a room filled with smoke.

What a genuine slap in the face to all those unskilled young people looking for work. Imagine the reaction if the same BC Government depicted Senior Citizens with such ignorance and disrespect.

Are these the kinds of images Glen Clark wants BC Employers to have of young people?

Will my unemployed young friends (most of whom are well educated and highly skilled) need to be blown up during a job interview? Certainly Employment Standards forbids this kind of activity.

Paul Holmes

Soapbox

St. Patrick's Manifesto

It's 9 p.m. and you've just left your Irish Lit. class, where you attempted to understand the intricacies of Joyce. Your mind is a whirlwind of ideas, and as inspired as you are by the subject matter, you realize that you know nothing. There is only one thing in your mind: the hearty, yet refreshing flavour of a fine stout.

To slake your thirst, you head to the nearest pub: your regular watering hole, Felicita's. Felicita's, the place that gets the bulk of your student loan. Sitting among friends in your familiar surroundings, a pleasant server politely informs you that your solitary desire cannot be fulfilled. It's a sad day in Victoria, for the mighty St. Patrick's has run out.

Instead, they offer you a bevy of watery beers, but narry a stout in sight! We, the undersigned, have made it our personal campaign to live to see the return of St. Patrick's Stout to the bar at Felicita's. Neither Sleeman's, nor Kokanee, nor Moosehead shall impair our noble campaign.

Beer drinkers of the world unite!

Request St. Patrick's every night!

Richard Carlson
Craig "Red" Saunders
The Co-Chairs of the "Save the St. Patrick's" Campaign

Informing UVic
50 Years
the martlet

Quote of the week

"Exactly what am I being charged with?"

New Martlet Editor-in-Chief Kevin Woodley to the officer who arrested him last week.

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Kevin Woodley

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The Martlet is an incorporated BC Society and a full member of Canadian University Press (CUP). Our purpose is to act as an agent of constructive social change and we will not print racist, sexist or homophobic copy

African vibes surround SUB

by Sue Walsh

Boulder, Colorado's Low Flying Knobs chime out a good time at Saturday's music fest.
martlet photo by Patricia Murray

African music enthusiasts were treated to a weekend of marimba and mbira music, traditional song and dance as UVic played host to the sixth annual Zimbabwean Music Festival, May 16-18.

The festival, being held for the first time in Canada, featured 14 of Zimbabwe's leading traditional musicians as well as mbira and marimba groups from B.C., Washington and Oregon.

Participants met each day at a "village meeting" to discuss the development of Zimbabwean music, both here and in Zimbabwe, before heading off to workshops.

A traditional Pungwe–twelve hours of music and dance began Saturday at noon outside the SUB, where an outdoor African market had been set up. Vendors sold and traded instruments, artwork and clothing as crowds enjoyed the upbeat music and sunshine.

Zimbabwean marimba and mbira music was first introduced to the Pacific Northwest in Seattle by Dr. Dumisani Maraire in the late 1960s. Over the past two decades the high-energy sound of the marimbas (large wooden xylophones) and the soft buzzing tones of the mbira (thumb pianos) have been adopted with enthusiasm throughout the region.

Maraire, an ethno-musicologist at the University of Harare, was the guest of honour at this year's festival. At the first evening concert he expressed his pleasure and appreciation for the support of Zimbabwean music in North America.

"I wish I had the whole evening to tell you all just how I really feel about the development of our music here. I am very pleased," he said.

Maraire was joined by Zimbabweans Sydney Maratu and Benita Tarupiwa as well as Ndebele dance expert Bajabulile Zikalala-Ndlovu, and the acapella group Black Umfolosi. This was the first time that Black Umfolosi have performed in Victoria since 1994, when they wowed Commonwealth Games' crowds at Victoria's Harbourfest.

The Zimbabweans all expressed surprise at the popularity of their music in North America. Zikalala-Ndlovu said it is ironic that marimba and mbira music is so popular in Canada and the U.S. at a time when young Zimbabweans ignore traditional music in favour of western rock, hip-hop and rap.

"I wish the people back home could see how these people here value our music," she said. "Perhaps then they would say 'Hey! If this music is so popular there, maybe we should have another look at it ourselves'."

Zikalala-Ndlovu was at the festival to teach a series of Women in Dance workshops including festival, wedding, birthing and rain dances. Festival participants were also given the opportunity to hone their marimba and mbira skills in small intensive workshops with Maraire, Tarupiwa and Maratu, as well as skilled North-American teachers.

The Festival closed Sunday evening with a sold-out performance by Black Umfolosi and Victoria's own Marimba Muzuva.

'70s camp flic still killer

the Village Vidiot

Massacre at Central High
D: Renee Daalder
1976
by Scott Beaty

Yeah, yeah, I know. I bet you've assumed that this particular film is just another teen-kill mess involving sexually-active victims and a chortling psycho killer. However, it is actually a clever and well-plotted social satire which was many years ahead of its time.

David, a new kid, arrives at a California high school and is thrust into a stringently-enforced class system by which all of the students abide. The intriguing loner begins to associate with the "wrong" people, which jeopardizes his favorable standing with the "in" crowd. After some particularly nasty incidents befall David and other innocents, a series of suspicious "accidents" is unleashed against the ruling faction.

If this is all sounding a little similar to a more recent production, it should. Michael Lehman's *Heathers* (1989), starring Christian Slater and Winona Rider, uses these potent elements and themes. Although *Heathers* remains a hipper, more polished film, it probably would have not been made if *Massacre* hadn't appeared 13 years earlier. The most pointed comment made by each film is that schools are societies, institutions where different social types gather, yet segregate themselves. These "centers of learning" serve as little more than dress rehearsals for the "real/adult" world, and appear to only reinforce the prejudices and divisions which cause strife.

An intelligent script, complex characters, and a vulgar tone of general nastiness render *Massacre* a potent and influential cult film. The movie's liabilities include some amazingly goofy dialogue and convoluted scenes, but hey, it was made in the '70s. Just keep it in mind next time you go bananas over *Heathers*.

Glueleg's new prog

Glueleg
Clodhopper
Liquid/EMI
1997
Jason Lake

About 25 years ago, bands like King Crimson, Pink Floyd, Yes and Genesis were at their collective youthful peak, writing music that was designed more for consciousness alteration than for shaking your booty.

Then there was disco.

Today's resurgence of intelligent "prog rock" has spawned acts like Primus, Tool, and a resuscitated King Crimson. Toronto's Glueleg dove into this pool of talent with *Heroic Doses*, their debut album released in 1994.

A few membership changes later, Glueleg returns with an effort that is anything but sophomoric, with *Clodhopper*, a superb heavyweight collection of whiplash-inducing music.

With all the changes in instrumentation and influence, Glueleg's sound changes somewhat, but retains its general form

Vocalist Carlos Alonso left the band for married life, so Andrew "Chowder" Charters replaces Alonso and his Chapman Stick with the more conventional bass guitar.

Ruben Huizenga takes center stage on vocals and guitar; Andrew Wyse eases off on the sax a bit and plays more keyboards.

Bob Mackowycz dropped out of the lineup two years ago, but makes a guest appearance on the very strange "Fresh Pigs."

In short: prog lives on.

Literary Arts Fest: farewell

by Randy Gelling

Every year the Literary Arts Festival is a chance to hear and meet some of the best writers in Canada, as well as allowing one to discover equally fine writers from around the world.

The final night of the festival was a successful mix of Canadian and international writers.

The first reader of the night was Austin Clarke. His selection from *The Origin of Waves*, travelled through raw emotions—from gentle eroticism to lyrical spirituality. By drawing upon the rich details of his African-Canadian heritage, Clarke's style was infused with directness and rough humour.

Similarly, Alice Adams' ironic view of doctors in *Medicine Men*, was informed by her experience as a survivor of brain cancer. Her reading was light-hearted, yet pointed satire.

Many people were probably there to hear Ontario's Ann-Marie MacDonald read from her tremendously successful *Fall On Your Knees*, and she didn't disappoint. The young actor, screenwriter, playwright and novelist seems to have talent to spare. Her epic and strange novel covers the lives of four sisters in the early part of the century. Highlighting her reading was a particularly intense description of a lesbian love scene in an alleyway.

I must admit that I came on this particular night to hear Guy Vanderhaeghe from Saskatchewan. His collection of short stories *Man Descending*, and *Things as They Are*, achieve the kind of clarity and perfection in execution that reminds me—in spirit at least—of Raymond Carver. He looked a little anxious, even making a Freudian slip by mispronouncing severe as "sefear" at one point, but gave a very funny reading.

Other writers who read during this year's festival included UVic's poetry professor Lorna Crozier, along with Audrey Thomas, Don McKay, Ursula K. Le Guin and Tim Winton.

The festival came to a close with a beautiful reading by Jonathan Raban from his 1986 book *Coasting*. Raban painted a witty but affectionate portrait of the great melancholic poet Philip Larkin.

Billboards

DEADLINE: FRIDAY AT 4PM.
RATES PER LINE:
STUDENTS: $1.00
NON-STUDENTS: $2.00
BUSINESS: $5.00

▸ Community Events ▸

Blood Donors!

Clinics will be held the week of June 2nd at Red Cross House, 909 Fairfield Rd. on Wednesday and Thursday, June 4 and 5 from 2:30 to 8 p.m. and on Friday, June 6 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Events

Help support and protect human rights in Chiapas, Mexico. Friday, May 23 at 1923 Fernwood Road 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. an educational presentation will be held followed by the live latin music of Victoria's Latin Beat. Call Carlos for info 598-7690.

Musafir: a showcase of Chun Fong and Izmer Ahmad, two emerging Malaysian artists opens through June 7, 1997. Call Open Space 383-8833 for details.

The 15th Annual Swiftsure Pancake Breakfast will be held Sat., May 24 between 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. at Dallas Road across from the flagpole at Beacon Hill. Breakfast is $5 per person. Contact Leanne Webster 655-2077

Loose Tongues–a women's reading series. May 25, 1997 features Marusya Bociurkiw at The G Spot 1910 Store Street. at 7 p.m. **This is a women only event.**

Oak Bay High School invites you to Teatro Milagro's new bilingual musical play. The performance takes place Monday, May 26 at 10 a.m. in the Oak Bay High School Auditorium, West Building.

Big Brothers and Sisters needed! Come to a "Volunteer Information Night" on Thursday, June 19 at 7 p.m. in suite #103-3347 Oak Street, Victoria. For info call 475-1117

▸ Classifieds ▸

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Wanted

Wanted to rent: a VW Westfalia for August. Call Susan @ 360-0544

For Rent

Furnished 2 bedroom apartment near UVic. Available for July and August 97 (only) Includes washer/dryer and utilities. $650/month. Call 472-2003

Room for rent. Fernwood area. $335 plus 1/3 utilities 598-9823.

▸ Hey You! ▸

Have you heard from Nick Nolet recently? She used to work at Cinecenta and SubText. Last heard from in Holland somewhere! Her father (Jack Nolet 1-604-888-4701) is searching high and low for her. Please call him collect if you know her whereabouts or have heard from her in the last two months.

AMBO! - Hey Darci, don't get kicked off the radio!

Morty- I love the look! You rock!

Martleteers - I'm gonna miss the lunches @ Felicita's, the long Tuesday nites teasing Kevin and holding baby Hannah in the mornings! Hell, I'm gonna miss everything! -Pesha

Jess & Shane - remember to take lots of pictures of your bundle of joy so I can see just how cute & tiny baby Howard-Sparks is.

Jenny- I like the room! - Brown.

Rusty- Oodles of green noodles make blue poodles jump Der Shtroodle. - J.

supatwat - all the rock's in the bass

Dino - I don't like mornings

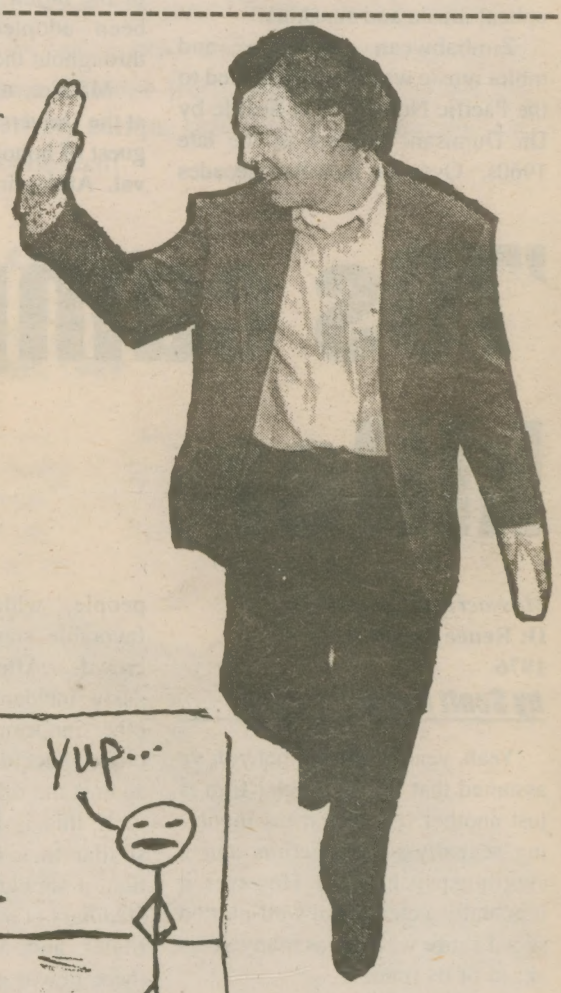
Look at those arms, **Lisa**. I want arms like that - Brown.

Death to all lager drinkers!
St. Patrick's Liberation Army [SLARM]
-militant wing of the Save the St. Patrick's Campaign

COMICS PAGE

连环漫画

COMICS? SURE...



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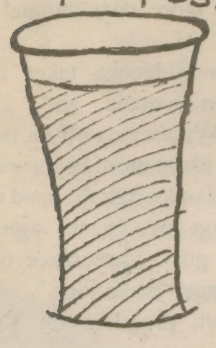
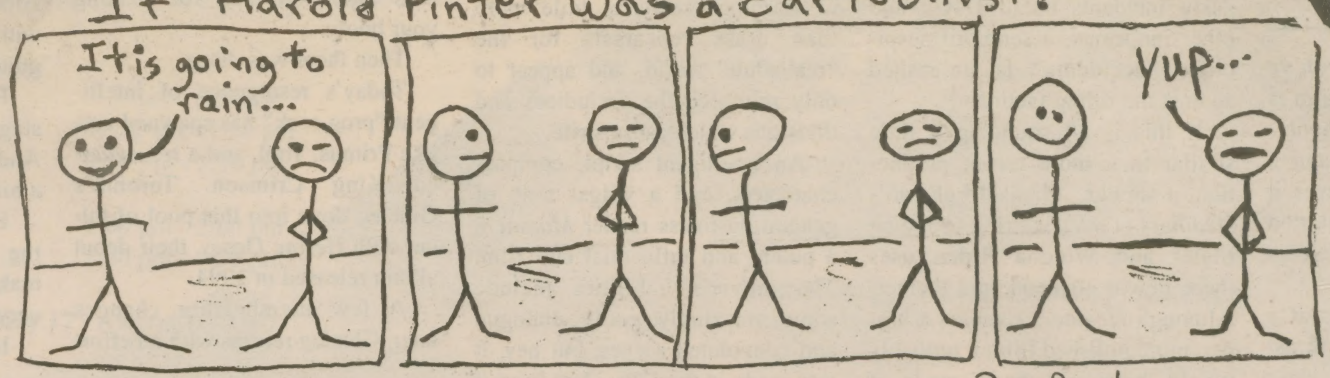


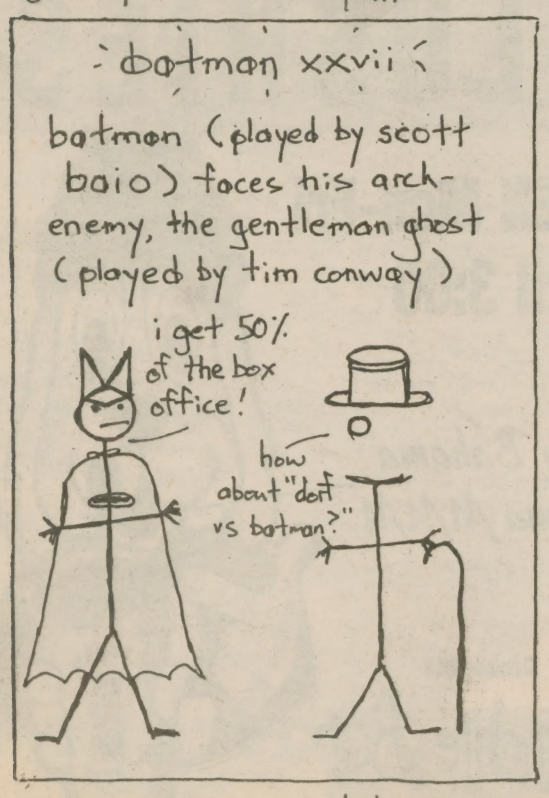
If Harold Pinter was a cartoonist:



By Randy

(guinness, guzzlin' guerilla goombaths)

johnny's first one-panel


batman xxvii
batman (played by scott baio) faces his arch-enemy, the gentleman ghost (played by tim conway)
i get 50% of the box office!
how about "deif vs batman?"

every one a maserati: jason

this issue's stick figures brought to you by: randy, jason.
yes, your name can be here, too.
submit your wares to the comix box at our office: SUB 6011.
i dare you.
i double dare you.
i triple dog dare you.

Put some **fun** back into your **summer!**

Volunteer for the *Martlet*

Review CD's, see free movies & concerts, take cool photos, play on computers and meet new people!